

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1 through 12 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please enter new Claims 13 through 20 to read, as follows.

Claims 1 through 12. **(Canceled)**

–13. **(New)** A sheet punching device for cutting holes in a sheet while punches are entering die holes, said sheet punching device comprising:

    a plurality of punch trains, each of which includes a plurality of said punches axially aligned on a rotating shaft and projecting in a radial direction of said shaft;

    initial position detecting means for detecting an initial position of each of said plurality of punch trains; and

    sheet end detecting means for detecting an end of the sheet,

    wherein said plurality of punch trains are disposed with a phase difference in a rotation direction of said shaft relative to one another, and said die holes are disposed in correspondence with said plurality of punches, and

    wherein one of said plurality of punch trains cuts holes in the sheet at a predetermined timing based on signals from said initial position detecting means and said sheet end detecting means.

14. **(New)** A sheet punching device according to Claim 13, wherein said sheet end detecting means detects a trailing end of the sheet.

15. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 13, wherein one of said plurality of punch trains cuts holes in the vicinity of the trailing end of the sheet.

16. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 14, wherein one of said plurality of punch trains cuts holes in the vicinity of the trailing end of the sheet.

17. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 13, wherein numbers of said plurality of punches of said plurality of punch trains are different from each other.

18. (New) A sheet punching device for punching holes in a sheet, said sheet punching device comprising:

a first rotatable shaft;

a plurality of punch trains disposed on said first shaft,

wherein each of said plurality of punch trains includes a plurality of punches extending radially from said first shaft, and

wherein said plurality of punches are arranged in parallel with one another in an axial direction of said first shaft;

initial position detecting means for detecting an initial position of each of said plurality of punch trains;

sheet end detecting means for detecting an end of the sheet;

a second rotatable shaft; and

a plurality of dies disposed on said second shaft and positioned so that die holes formed in said plurality of dies correspond with said plurality of punches during an operation of said sheet punching device,

wherein one of said plurality of punch trains cuts holes in the sheet at a predetermined timing based on signals from said initial position detecting means and said sheet end detecting means.

19. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 17, wherein said sheet end detecting means detects a trailing end of the sheet.

20. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 17, wherein one of said plurality of punch trains cuts holes in the sheet in the vicinity of the trailing end of the sheet.

21. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 18, wherein one of said plurality of punch trains cuts holes in the sheet in the vicinity of the trailing end of the sheet.

22. (New) A sheet punching device according to Claim 17, wherein numbers of said plurality of punches of said plurality of punch trains are different from each other.--